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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 001771

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DEPART FOR INR/B

EO 12958 DECL: 06/30/2018
TAGS PGOV, PINR, PREL, UK
SUBJECT: LIBERAL DEMOCRAT LEADER NICK CLEGG OUTLINES THE
PARTY'S FOREIGN POLICY

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Maura Connelly for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1. (SBU) Summary. Nick Clegg, MP and leader of the Liberal Democrats, called for the UK to adopt the UN's "Responsibility to Protect" doctrine
Criteria for Liberal Interventionism

2. (SBU) Clegg's primary message was the UK's need to adopt a doctrine of what he called "liberal interventionism," similar to the UN's concep
Iraq and Afghanistan

3. (SBU) Clegg briefly touched on Iraq, and reaffirmed the Liberal Democrats' position that troop levels must be drawn down. He said that the

4. (SBU) Clegg argued for more aid and assistance to be sent to Afghanistan, underscoring his belief that failure there would lead to greater
Zimbabwe

5. (SBU) Clegg also touched on Zimbabwe, and explained that, despite the pressing humanitarian concerns, Western military involvement would be
Europe

6. (SBU) Clegg argued that the UK must take a stronger role in Europe. He sees in French President Nicolas Sarkozy an unlikely ally in the dev
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Comment

7. (C/NF) Since becoming leader of the Liberal Democrats, Clegg's general foreign policy tone has softened. His earlier hard-line rhetoric aga

8. (C/NF) Clegg himself spoke confidently and passionately in his address about the UK's need to become involved in a more unified EU. He appe

Bio Note

9. (C/NF) Clegg, like many Liberal Democrats, is individually articulate, charismatic, and personable. Since taking over the leadership of the

10. (U) Clegg serves as the Member of Parliament for Sheffield Hallam. He was first elected to British Parliament in 2005, and was elected the
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